



*Sisters of Saint Francis of the Providence of God*  
Confidently, Joyfully, We Go Forward!

2018 MAR -8 P 1:33

February 28, 2018

Commissioner Robert Taub, Chairman  
Commissioner Tony Hammond, Vice Chairman  
Commissioner Nanci Langley  
Commissioner Mark Acton  
Postal Regulatory Commission  
901 New York Avenue, NW, Suite 200  
Washington, DC 20268

POSTAL REGULATORY  
COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

RE: Docket No. RM2017-3

Dear Commissioners:

The Sisters of St. Francis of the Providence of God join the National Catholic Development Conference (NCDC), the Alliance of Nonprofit Mailers, and the nonprofit mailing community in urging you to reconsider your proposal to increase postage rates several times the rate of inflation. Increases that are estimated to reach 7 percent a year, or 40 percent compounded for five years, will not reform the United States Postal Service and will have a major negative impact on both the agency and its customers.

As a nonprofit, we rely on mail for the majority of our fundraising. But we operate on a limited, fixed fundraising budget each year, so if postage goes up as much as you contemplate, we will be forced to greatly reduce our mailings. This will have a disastrous impact on our revenue and our mission. It will also greatly impact your revenue.

Our mission, as a religious non-profit congregation of religious women, is to provide spiritual and concrete assistance to those in need, especially the most vulnerable in our society.

Postage increases totaling 40 percent over the next five years impact on the number of people we can serve.

Please do the right thing and reconsider your proposal.

Sincerely,

Sister Janet Gardner, OSF  
General Councilor and Treasurer